Remarks

Applicants request consideration on the merits of the above-referenced patent application.

I. Amendments to Claims

This amendment A cancels claims 16, 17, 19-21, 62, 112-117, 126-130, 143, 144, 204, 206, 208, 210, and 212-214 in accordance with Applicants' understanding of the September 24, 2004 restriction requirement. Thus, claims 1-15, 18, 22-61, 63-111, 118-125, 131-142, 145-203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 215-222, and 226 are pending, and claims 223-225 are withdrawn All pending and withdrawn claims are shown in the previous section.

II. Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicants elect Group IX (*i.e.* claims 1-15, 18, 22-30, 31-61, 63-64, 65-111, 118-125, 131-142, 145-203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 215-222, and 226) to be examined. Applicants also elect the compound of claim 54 (*i.e.*, Example 7 on page 136) as the starting point for examination:

Although examination is currently restricted to claims 1-15, 18, 22-30, 31-61, 63-64, 65-111, 118-125, 131-142, 145-203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 215-222, and 226, Applicants have not canceled the method-of-use claims, *i.e.* claims 223-225. Because method-of-use claims 223-225 include all the limitations of claims 1, 75, 80, 94, 135, 157, 171, 184, 187, 191, 199, and 215, Applicants request that claims 223-225 be rejoined into the application in the event that any of claims 1, 75, 80, 94, 135, 157, 171, 184, 187, 191, 199, and 215 are allowed in accordance with MPEP §821.04

Process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance.

The Office action recognizes Applicants' right to this rejoinder in its discussion on pages 4-5.

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/603,441 Amendment A January 24, 2005

* * * * * * * * *

Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge \$1020.00 to Deposit Account No. **08-0750** to cover the fees for three-month extension. Applicants believe that they do not owe any other fee(s) in connection with this submission. If, however, Applicants do owe such fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge those fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**. And if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and request that it be allowed. Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned if any issues arise that can be addressed over the phone to expedite examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia N. Nenow, PTO Reg. No. 52,530

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, LLC 7700 Bonhomme, Suite 400 St. Louis, Missouri 63105

(314) 726-7500 (tel) (314) 726-7501 (fax)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on January 24, 2005 with sufficient postage as first class mail (including Express Mail per MPEP § 512), and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Lydia N. Nenow, PTO Reg. No. 52,530

LNN/SSB/